



## Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

### Congresswoman Betty McCollum

*"Serving Minnesota's Families"*



DECEMBER 5, 2003

### **Hot News!**

#### **McCollum Honors St. Paul U.S.S. Ward Veterans**

Rep. Betty McCollum met this week with crew members of the U.S.S. Ward from the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District to honor their service and listen to their stories.

On December 7, 1941, the U.S. Naval fleet stationed in Pearl Harbor fell under surprise attack, sustaining the most devastating attacks our nation had ever seen. On that morning, a group of Navy reservists from Saint Paul fired the first American shots of World War II, sinking a small Japanese submarine that attempted to enter Pearl Harbor slightly more than an hour before the attack. This act of heroism was largely overlooked until recently.

"I am proud to have had the opportunity to meet some of these heroes – many of whom still live in our community. Theirs is an inspiring story – one that needs to be heard today as we seek to recognize and honor true patriotism," McCollum said.

The majority of the unique crew of the U.S.S. Ward were Navy Reservists from Saint Paul, MN. Their bravery was recently honored with the Citizen Patriot Award, which was presented to them in Washington DC. They are only the second unit to receive the award - the highest award conferred by the Reserve Forces Policy Board. The award is intended for individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the nation's defense and security.

On May 29, 2004, the National World War II Memorial will be dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, DC. This memorial will honor all veterans of the war and those who contributed to their efforts, reflecting their courage, sacrifice and valor in the defense of our great nation.

*For more information on events surrounding the dedication, please visit the American Battle Monuments Commission website at [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), or contact Rep. Betty McCollum at (651) 224-9191.*



*Rep. Betty McCollum greeted 25 newly nominated Peace Corps volunteers preparing to depart, as well as returned Peace Corps volunteers (RPCV's) at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center in St. Paul this week. RPCV's joined to share their experiences and provide an opportunity for family members of future volunteers to ask questions and become acquainted.*

### **The Week Ahead**

- On **Monday December 8, 2003**, Rep. Betty McCollum will partner with the National Institute on Media and the Family to unveil their Eighth Annual "Video Game Report Card" on Capitol Hill. The annual report card provides a snapshot of the interactive gaming industry with a focus on issues related to child welfare.
- The House will meet to consider the Omnibus Appropriations bill and is expected to complete legislative business for the year on Monday. Upon completion of legislative business on **December 8**, the House is expected to convene next year on **January 20** for the start of the 2nd session of the 108th Congress.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . [www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html](http://www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html)

**Washington Office:** 1029 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515 ♦ phone / (202) 225-6631 ♦ fax / (202) 225-1968

**St. Paul Office:** 165 Western Ave. N., #17, St. Paul, MN 55102 ♦ phone / (651) 224-9191 ♦ fax / (651) 224-3056